

ART WORKS FOR VIRGINIA 2011

SPEAKER BIOS



Jack Becker is founder and Executive Director of Forecast Public Art, established in 1978. As a public artist and program administrator, Becker specializes in projects that connect the ideas and energies of artists with the needs and opportunities of communities. He has organized 73 exhibitions, 60 publications, and more than 35 special events. In 1976 he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, studying under such artists as Siah Armajani and Andrew Leicester. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1954, he also studied there at Washington University and Webster University. In 1974 he attended the Maryland Institute in Baltimore and the Croydon College of Art and Design in Great Britain. Becker's work focused on mixed media installations, glass sculptures and public art collaborations. In 1977, he was hired as the gallery director for City Art Productions, a CETA-funded program of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce

and the Minneapolis Arts Commission. The "gallery" was the entire city, including parks, plazas, libraries, billboards, and other public spaces. He organized public exhibitions featuring over 60 CETA artists, and assisted in the production of a national conference on the arts and urban economic development. In 1989 he established two annual programs for Forecast: a statewide grant program for emerging Minnesota artists and the national journal *Public Art Review*. In 1994 Becker established a consulting and facilitation practice offering a wide range of services to groups seeking help with public art planning, programming, and commissioning. Becker previously served as the first Art in Public Places Program Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis (1987-89), Arts Development Manager for the City of St. Paul (1991-93), and instructor at the College of Visual Arts, St. Paul (1993-1995). He has taught subjects ranging from business for fine artists to issues in contemporary art. Americans for the Arts awarded the 2007 Award of Excellence for work in the public art field to Becker and Forecast Public Art. He has served on the boards of several non-profit organizations, including Public Art Saint Paul, Hand papermaking Magazine, the Minnesota Craft Council, and Americans for the Arts (a founding member of their Public Art Network Council). He has presented lectures at conferences and symposia throughout the United States, including New York City, St. Louis, Seattle, Des Moines, Austin, Denver, Tampa, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, Atlanta, San Francisco, Chicago, and Takaoka, Japan. He has conducted strategic planning workshops for artists, arts organizations, and community organizations and provided consulting services to corporations, public agencies, and non-profit organizations. Becker has organized or participated in several collaborative projects with urban planners, landscape architects, engineers, architects, and other design professionals.

As an actor, **Eric Booth** performed in many plays on Broadway, Off-Broadway and around the country, playing over 23 Shakespearean roles, and winning acting awards on both coasts. As a businessman, he started a small company, Alert Publishing, that in seven years became the largest of its kind in the U.S. analyzing research on trends in American lifestyles. He was a frequent trend pundit in the major media, with a nationally syndicated radio program. As an author, he has had five books published. *The Everyday Work of Art* won three awards and was a Book of the Month Club selection. He has written three dozen magazine articles, was the Founding Editor of the Teaching Artist Journal, and his new book The Music Teaching Artist's Bible was published by Oxford University Press and is the first book on teaching artistry. In arts learning, he has taught at Juilliard (13 years), Stanford University, NYU, Tanglewood and Lincoln Center Institute (for 25 years), and The Kennedy Center (12 years). He was the Faculty Chair of the Empire State Partnership program for three years (the largest arts-in-education project in America). He serves as a consultant for many organizations, cities and states and businesses around the country, including six of the ten largest orchestras in America, and five national service organizations and many school districts. He is widely referred to as the father of the teaching artist profession. Formerly the Director of the Teacher Center of the Leonard Bernstein Center, he is a frequent keynote speaker on the arts to groups of all kinds. He delivered the closing keynote speech to UNESCO's first ever worldwide arts education conference (Lisbon 2006)-the only American speaker; and gave the keynote speech to the first world conference on orchestras connections to communities (Glasgow 2007). He is the Senior Advisor to the Music National Service initiative (lead trainer and training designer for Musician Corps).



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Krista Bradley joined Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation in 2006 as Program Officer for Performing Arts and Leadership Development. In this capacity, she manages performing arts touring and funding programs for presenters and artists in the Foundation's nine states and territories and curates an annual roster of regional and international performing artists spanning dance, theater and music for touring with the mid-Atlantic region. Prior to joining the Foundation, she served as a consultant, funder and arts administrator, working with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, Washington Performing Arts Society, the Walker Arts Center, and Harlem Stage/Aaron Davis Hall on programming, audience development, community engagement, and strategic communications. She has directed national and regional arts program initiatives for the Wallace Readers' Digest Fund and OPERA America and held management positions with both Houston Grand Opera and the Virginia Opera. Ms. Bradley has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts Presenting and Touring Program and for the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) Presenting panel. She attended Brown University, where she majored in comparative literature and music.



Linda Colet founded the firm of DaoPoint Digital in 2004 to advise museums and other arts organizations on the best use of technology in collections management, data standardization, and exhibition design. A list of her current and past clients include the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum, and the Renate, Hans, and Maria Hofmann Trust. Prior to founding her own firm, she worked in the museum world for over 15 years, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, and the Reader's Digest Corporate Art Collection. At the Metropolitan Museum she developed the strategic plan to create data consistency across 17 curatorial departments and worked with curators to plan public access terminals in the Greek and Roman study center. At the Museum of Modern Art she created the first digital studio for publications and long-term archival use and led the implementation of a new collections and exhibitions management system.

Leisa Collins was born into an artistic family in Auckland, New Zealand, and began painting the natural wonders around her at an early age. At 17 she embarked upon formal art training but after only a few months opted to learn her craft through capturing on canvas the beauty of the countryside. Exploring every nook and cranny of New Zealand, she financed her adventures by selling her work as she went. She returned to Auckland and set up her own studio and gallery where she held her first of many solo exhibitions. After mastering acrylics she added watercolor, pen, and pastel to her repertoire. She also began receiving a steady flow of commissions for her landscape and house portrait works. In 1978 Ms. Collins became increasingly involved in social issues, including a growing movement to restore land rights to New Zealand's indigenous Maori; and she depicted their struggles through her art. Four years later she decided to answer the call for activism on a global scale. While mainly based in Los Angeles, Ms. Collins' activities took her to many continents and gave her a first hand view of diverse cultures and social inequities. She continued her art in her free time, creating drawings and paintings for friends and relatives. In 2009 Ms. Collins decided to once again make art her primary focus. Drawing upon her global insight, her newest works are mainly studies of people. Expressed in semi-abstract swirls, translucent shadows, and ethnic patterns, her works convey raw emotions – whether shining the light on social injustice or communicating the power of the human spirit. Her artistic influences range from Impressionists Monet and Renoir, master of expressionism van Gogh and Edvard Munch, Picasso, and the message driven works of Francisco de Goya, Andrew Wyeth, and John Steuart Curry.



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Dr. Sarah Bainter Cunningham is the Director of Arts Education for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). In this capacity, she provides leadership in the field of arts education and oversees national initiatives such as Poetry Out Loud, Shakespeare in American Communities, Jazz in the Schools, and the Education Leaders Institute. She directs various education partnerships with the U.S. Department of Education, Council for Chief State School Officers, cultural organizations, state departments of education, and state arts agencies. Dr. Cunningham chairs the annual review for applications in the NEA's Learning in the Arts grants category. She also serves as Team Leader for the Arts Endowment's Literature and Arts Education Division. Prior to her NEA appointment, Sarah led education and academic programs, and held several teaching positions at University of Maine at Orono, Vanderbilt University and Belmont University. She was founding Dean of the Oxbow School, a visual arts high school in Napa, California. She has published essays and articles in the fields of education, arts and philosophy. Sarah received her Bachelor's degree in philosophy at Kenyon College and her Masters and Doctoral degrees in Philosophy at Vanderbilt University.

Ed Dolinger, a painter and sculptor who resides in Bassett, Virginia, studied at the Corcoran School of Art and currently serves as adjunct faculty at Hollins University. He was the founder and director of Metro-Arts, a nonprofit community arts facility in Salt Lake City, prior to returning to Virginia in 2000. His public art commissions include the Salt Lake City Library; the Park City Utah Transit Center; the Festival of Lakes in Madison, Wisconsin; and the Lynchburg Children's Museum. He completed an artist in residency with the City of Roanoke in 2010 during which he worked with students at the two city high schools to design bus shelters. This was a joint public art project between the city, the schools, and the Greater Roanoke Transit Authority. Mr. Dolinger was responsible for the final design, fabrication and installation of the two shelters. Mr. Dolinger is represented in public and private collections across the country and has received numerous fellowships and awards. Mr. Dolinger's work received the Best in Show award at the 2009 Roanoke City Art Show. He is the founder and director of Dialog Gallery in downtown Roanoke.



Steve Galyean is the Virginia Tourism Corporation's Partnership Marketing Development Director, and heads up the VTC Tourism Development Division. The VTC development division focuses on business development, job creation, and business assistance. Steve also administers the VTC Marketing Leverage Programs. Steve and his division are active in the development of new tourism product including the Heartwood Artisan Gateway, Spearhead Trail, Fish Virginia First Trail, the Tobacco Heritage Trail, and the Wilderness Road project. Prior to assuming the VTC position in November 2005, Steve served eleven years as the Director of Tourism for the Abingdon Convention & Visitors Bureau in Abingdon, VA. Preceding his move to Abingdon, he was Executive Director of the Galax-Carroll-Grayson Chamber of Commerce in Galax, VA. Steve Galyean is a native of Galax, Virginia and a graduate of Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA. He has served two terms as President of the Virginia Association of Convention & Visitors Bureaus, as well as Vice-President of Tourism Marketing and Treasurer of the organization. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Crooked Road - Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, and has served on the boards of the Blue Ridge Travel Association, Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association, the Virginia Highlands Festival, and the Tri-Cities TN/VA Regional Partnership.

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Sally Lay has served as the Executive Director of the Center for the Arts of Greater Manassas/Prince William County for the past twenty years. She has overseen the development of programming at the Center to include: The Pied Piper Children's Theatre, Pied Piper Theatre Camps, extensive arts education classes, the Summer Sounds Concert Series, and "*Arts on the Go*." She spearheaded a five-year campaign to win community, government and private support for the restoration of the old Hopkins Candy Factory, which would become the new home for the Center for the Arts. The Candy Factory, now complete, houses an art gallery, classrooms and a multi use theater space. A graduate of the University of Kentucky with advanced studies in arts management, Ms. Lay received the Seefeldt Pioneer Award in 2005 from the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce for extraordinary contributions that benefit the entire arts community. She serves on the boards of directors of the Prince William County Arts Council and the Prince William County Convention & Visitors Bureau. She is a past president of Virginians for the Arts and the Rotary Club of Manassas and continues to serve on the boards of both organizations. She is a member of the CAPS Advisory Panel for the Arts Council of Fairfax County and has been an advisory panelist for the Virginia Commission for the Arts.



Richard Rose is in his 18th season with the Barter Theatre, only the third Artistic Director in Barter's illustrious 77-year history. Rick has produced and directed theatre throughout the United States. He has directed, choreographed, designed, and/or written over 135 productions at the Barter. His original adaptations of *It's a Wonderful Life*, *A Modern Christmas Carol*, *Dracula!*, *Wuthering Heights*, and *The Hound of the Baskervilles* have been wildly successful with Barter audiences. Since coming to the Barter, Rick has more than tripled the annual attendance, setting a record-breaking season last year with over 160,000 attending Barter's programs. He has overseen the renovation of the historic Barter Theatre building and the recent renovation and expansion of Barter Stage II. Under Rick's leadership, the Barter received the prestigious A Business of the Year Award for the Tri-Cities Virginia/Tennessee region.

He has brought the Barter into the international spotlight with productions in Russia and New York, premieres of many new works, and the founding of the Barter's Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwrights.

Jim Royce is well known for his innovative marketing and advertising for major arts organizations. Since 1996, as Center Theatre Group's Director of Marketing, Communications, and Sales, Jim Royce oversees all activities related to marketing, advertising, press, graphics, and tickets sales for the Mark Taper Forum and Ahmanson Theatre at the Music Center in Los Angeles and for the new Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. Center Theatre Group is California's most popular theatre company with annual ticket revenues exceeding \$35 million. Mr. Royce began his theatrical career in Seattle as an actor and co-founder of The Empty Space. He also worked with A Contemporary Theatre and the Seattle Rep. He was the Executive Director of the Seattle Arts Festival, more popularly known as "Bumbershoot." In the San Francisco Bay area he was Marketing Director for the Berkeley Repertory Theatre and later for the American Conservatory Theater. Mr. Royce has consulted with a diverse clientele, including Cirque du Soleil, jazz festivals, major symphony orchestras, popular musical theatre, contemporary dance, emerging visual artists, the opening of the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, and the American premiere of Lucas film's *The Art of Star Wars*, an exhibition of the drawings, props, costumes, and models created for the original films.

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Margy Waller is Vice President, Strategic Communications and Research, of The Arts Wave in Cincinnati. She founded and has served as Executive Director of The Mobility Agenda, a think tank in Washington DC. Previously she was Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institute, with a joint appointment in the Economic Studies and Metropolitan Policy programs. Prior to Brookings, she was Senior Advisor on domestic policy in the Clinton-Gore White House. Before joining the Administration, Ms. Waller was Senior Fellow at the Progressive Policy Institute. She also served as Director of Public Policy at United Way of America, Director of Policy Development at Public/Private Ventures in Philadelphia, and congressional fellow in the office of U.S. Representative Eric Fingerhut (D-OH). Ms. Waller was named one of the nation's 25 most "powerful and influential" nonprofit arts leaders, Top Ten Tweeter by Soapbox Media, and a Rising Civic Star by Cincy Magazine. She was appointed by Ohio Governor Ted

Stickland to the Board of Trustees of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College and serves as a member of Council 360, leading the Quality Place Priority Focus team on arts & culture. She is also a member of the United Way Future Direction Task Force. She received her BS in communication studies at Northwestern University and a law degree from Ohio State University.

As Partnership Marketing Education Director for the Virginia Tourism Corporation, **Bobbie Walker** works directly with Virginia destinations and attractions, conducting customer service training programs for front-line staff and management. Her goal is to encourage sustainable customer service practices that will increase profits for tourism businesses in Virginia. Bobbie's message has been well-received. So far, in 2010, more than 4000 people have participated in these workshops. Bobbie has been with Virginia Tourism Corporation for 17 years.



Crys Warlittner began experimenting with art in 1983 while continuing a career in commercial interior design in Atlanta. She began accepting art commissions from a growing list of commercial clients and in 1994, while contemplating a move to a new city, decided to focus her full-time efforts on art. She moved her studio to Newport News and concentrated full-time on her art career from 1994 until 1999 when volunteer work for the Peninsula Fine Arts Center grew into permanent employment. She worked at several different positions at the Peninsula Fine Arts Center until July of 2007 when the need for a greater creative outlet led her back to the studio. Her work has been shown at: Fay Gold Gallery, Lansdell Gallery, Io's, and Paces Papers in Atlanta, GA; JSL Fine Arts, the Peninsula Fine Arts Center and the Frame Shop and Gallery in Newport News, VA; the 1996 Parade of Homes in Williamsburg, VA; and the Charles Taylor Center and the 1997 Parade of Homes in Hampton, VA. Her work is in numerous private and corporate collections.

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Katie West, senior program officer for Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, is the founding director of Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour (PennPAT), a program that encourages and supports touring by professional Pennsylvania artists. Prior to PennPAT, West directed several grants and technical assistance programs at the Illinois Arts Council and was communications director for MoMing Dance & Arts Center, an NPN presenter in Chicago. West has been a panelist for educational sessions at Arts Presenters, Grantmakers in the Arts, Northeast Performing Arts Conference, Performing Arts Exchange and other conferences; has served on grant review panels; and is currently on the advisory committees for several conferences and professional development series. In addition to her administrative work, she has taught dance, and written dance reviews and feature stories for daily and bi-monthly publications. West holds a bachelor's degree in Journalism/Public Relations, with a minor in dance, from Central Michigan University.

Angela Wiggins, is the Virginia Tourism Corporation's Partnership Marketing Development Coordinator, and works in the VTC Tourism Development Division. The VTC development division focuses on business development, job creation, and business assistance. Angela works to manage the VTC Marketing Leverage Programs alongside Steve Galyean. Angela has served the Commonwealth of Virginia for 20 years at various State agencies: Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. Angela Wiggins is a native of Hopewell, VA and a graduate of Kee Business College, VA.